

BOUGHT  
WIT IS  
BEST.



OR,

THE M LONGS  
Journey to London, to  
buy Wit.

Many men learne after-Wit  
By errors which they doe commit.



LONDON.

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sold at his Shop on Snow-hill, over against the  
Sarazens head.

1634.



To the Reader gentle  
or ungentele.

Booke as a Child laid forth into a Wood,  
Wher salvage deales do hunt abroad for tood  
Vano their bloody jawes is made a prey,  
Or els fyne Forrester whō comes that way  
In pity takes it up, and brings it home  
To his Wife, whō murles it oyen as her owne,  
So this same little Booke I wadled in a shēere  
And laid forth in the world, with foes shall meeete  
Who like wild beasts when they doe on it light,  
Will seekē by all meanes to destroy it quite,  
Some with the Ape when they have it espi'd,  
Straight with some scōtfull mock will it deride,  
And by some wanton Goate it may bee pushē,  
Because it hath no lynes to stirre up lust,  
And some great Beare that doth with drinking foame  
May chance to rend it meet ing if alone,  
Or else some Leopard, whose red face doth shīne  
Being full of spots with drinking too much wine,

To the Reader gentle or ungentle.

May prey on it, and with his pawes may teare it  
To light Tobacco, (for I much doe fear e it)  
Or it may fortune, that some idle Ass  
May kicke at it, as hee along doth passe  
Thus every way endangered, unlesse you  
(Kind Readers) reely doe vouchsafe to shew  
Your generous favour for to cherish this  
Poore Infant, which cannot yet doe amisse :  
And now is laid forth in the world to try  
Her gentle kindnes, or her crukelty  
By one who hath adventur'd first of all  
To take it up and lay it on his stall.  
Encourage his beginning, and he will  
Entreat his friend to climbe the Muses hill,  
Who having tasted of their Spring, shall write  
Some fresh conceits to yeeld you free de.ight.  
In the meane time you wisely may learne here,  
What some with sad repentance buy too deare,  
Since 'tis an ancient truth which is confess  
By every one, that *bought Wit is the best.*

W. S.

*Felix quems faciunt aliena pericula cantum.*

Hee is happy sure of whatso'e degree,  
That by anothers harmes can warned bee.

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To

## To the Reader.

**L**ondon esteemed is for chiose of ware,  
So that the Country thither doth repaire,  
For here they may buy any pretty knack  
Provided, that no money they doe lack,  
Heere you may have fine Purses for your Wives,  
Tires, wires and Bracelets, with good mettald knives,  
Scarfes, Rings, Girdles, and pure Kid-skin Gloves,  
Which you may buy to give unto your loves.  
Heere you may have fine Cambrick and bone-lace,  
Or a box of beautie to adorne the face:  
Heer's, garters, needles, pins, and in a word,  
Ther's nothing but the City can afford,  
But Wit is in this Booke to sale expos'd,  
And many follies of the world disclos'd  
So that for a small price you may buy here  
That Wit which other men have bought so deere.

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# Bought VVit is best.



It was in the time when the Trees are adornd with sweet blossomes, and the Birds with charefull voices doe welcome in the Spring: When Tom Long being Carrier to the Town of Gotham, thought in this pleasant time to make a pleasant journey to London to buy wit, for he knew it was an ancient Proverb that bought wit is best, and so setting forward, no sooner did he arrive at the famous City of London, but he tooke up his Inne, and having wash't the dust out of his throat with a Jug o' Water, he presently went for to seeke for his permiworths, for the Towne of Gotham had promised Tom, that if he brought home a whole horse leade of wit, that then he should be made an Alderman amongst them, and be counted the wisest man among all the Townsmen of Gotham, and besides be rewarded for his paines, with honour, dignity and preferment. The consideration whereof made Tom very desirous to obtaine his purpose, so that he wanded through the City, gaping and looking on every thing, and asking at divers shes for this precious commodity, but sooner might Diogenes find an honest man in Athens, then Tom Long could find any wit that was to be sold, unlesse it were in Bookes, but hee being not able to reade, would therefore buy none of them, so that stayng long in Towne, as his money decreas'd, so his

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griefe encreas'd, untill at last hee espied a man wal-  
king with crossed armes, his hat puld in his Eyes, as  
if he scorned to looke upon the vanitie of the ~~World~~,  
and it saemes he had so much acquaintance with the  
Muses as to deserue the title of a Scholler, his name  
was Musario. Tom having by some blunt discourses  
made knowne the intention of his journey unto him,  
had found such witty answers in Musario, that he  
thought that this was the man ordained to helpe him  
to his pennywo:thes of Wit, and so much hee deligh-  
ted in his company, that he began to be in love with  
learning, which before hee hated, and at last invited  
Musario to his Inne, whither being come, Tom cal-  
led for a Chamber, and likewise for Ware, and ha-  
ving dranke to Musario with some home spun com-  
plement he entreated him to let him know where he  
might buy a horse load of Wit, for he was come from  
the Towne of Gotham to fetch that commodity,  
there being nothing which was more scarce amongst  
them, especially they being that summer to enter-  
taine the Lord of the Towne so that they should need  
a whole dicker of Wit to provide Maskes and Com-  
medies for his entertainement, & to please his care  
with some witty inventions. Musario having heard  
Toms speech, told him that albeit the Towne of Go-  
tham had bene ever esteem'd a very barren soyl  
for wit, yet herein they did expresse their sally mor-  
then in any other of their acts and monuments: so  
(saies he) though money may bee got by Wit, ye

Bought w<sup>t</sup> it is best.

Wh<sup>t</sup> it cannot be bought for money, unlesse it be at the second hand, which is by w<sup>t</sup>ful experiance, for as wise men doe forese<sup>t</sup> the event of things by the caues, so th<sup>e</sup> that have no experiance in affaires, doe then find out their errour when it is to late, the one knows what will happen, and like a skilfull Pilot does aby<sup>t</sup> the rock before hee come nare it, the other either blinded by the mists of ignorance, or allured by the sweet enchanting voices of the Syrens, sailles on her knowles not wh<sup>t</sup> ther, untill at last bee split<sup>t</sup> himselfe upon some rock: and so comes to buy Wh<sup>t</sup> at the pric<sup>e</sup> of daers experiance, as I will shew you hereafter. No sooner had Mulario given Tom a taske this following discourse, but presently hee began to relish it, and to scape his thankfullnesse upon the doore with his nailed shooes, so that Mulario had much a doe to make him keepe on his hat, untill at last having made him sit downe againe: Tom earnestly looking upon him, gave him such attention as Midas did when hee judged betwene Pans Water-pipe and Apoloes golden Harpe. Wh<sup>t</sup>hen Mulario began thus, Tom I perceiue thou art come to London to buy Wh<sup>t</sup> which as I said is selome bought without repentance, for men by committing extrours doe at last learne Wh<sup>t</sup>, when they have beene taught in the Scholl<sup>e</sup> of aduersity, and beene whipt with the rod of their owne making, for I will tell thee Tom, you have many young gallants whose thrif<sup>t</sup> fathers have left them an ample estate, who comming to London doe ex-

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change Lordships, to buy manners and complements, and here they goe gaily. It be wantonly, spend prodigally, and consume their meane unthriftily, and yet this golden Calfe, this outside of man does never thinke what will ensue, but drives thole thoughts farre from him, & goes on in this path of ruine from the Ale-house to the Taberne, from the Taberne to the dicing hou'e, from thence to the who'e house, and so walkes on in the highway of wickednes, untill at last idle spending brings want; want brings necessity, and necessity brings sorrow and griefe, and then perhaps when hee sees that his companions begin to leave him, and does discerne the true face and complexion of the world, which was hid from him before under fawning smiles, and flattering protestations, then he begins to perceive the false friendship of men their cunning deceit and hollow-hartednesse, then he sees the folly of mispending time and money, the folly of effeminate company and immoderate drinking: He condemnes idle society, frothy discourses, and empty complements, and now when his purse cryes peccavi, hee findes the truth of this Proverb, that bought Wit is best.

The second sort that buy Wit at the second hand, are young Maidens, who chusing by their fancy, and not by Judgement, bee often cast themselves away on a twofold Rock, for either some wanton amorous youth does so farre insinuate and get into their good opinion, that they doe give him up the keyes of their

Maidens.

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spaiden-castle , and so as Quene Dido by the ex-  
pence of one houre in the Cave , brought upon her  
selfe so much misery , that for very griele she tolde  
revenge of her selfe putting her tender side with a  
dagger , because Aeneas had pierced her bellill before ,  
so those giddy-braind græne wenchess , are allured by  
faire speches , and wonne by faire persuasions to  
make a ventur , and play the Merchant with their  
owne commodities , till at last having cast up their  
bookes , they find that they have lost their Maides-  
head , and got a great belly , and then at last when the  
world takes notice of it , and that her friends are dis-  
pleased with her , and the Father is run away , then  
hinc lacrymæ , that is to say , then they weepe , waile , &  
lament , and when they find the unfaithfulnes of men ,  
the vanity of unlawfull desires , the shame and dis-  
grace which doth redound unto them : they at last ac-  
knowledege their folly , and confess that bought Wit  
is best . The other Rock of ruine is wh n Maides are  
enforce d to marry against their wills , or else when  
their will being not directed by reason does persuadre  
them to marry with some unwe 2 thy fellow , prefer-  
ring riches before birth , wealth before wit , comple-  
ments before constancy , and outward empty appea-  
rances before true worth , for in such mariages no  
sooner is the wedding night past , and that the honey  
and sweetnesse of love is consum d , but presently all  
their affection is lost and gone they know not how  
nor where , and then they wish that they might goe  
to

Bought Wit is best.

to Church againe and bee unmarried ; but because such knots are not to be untied when they list, therefore they are enforced to live together, though they cannot love together, for now every thing occasions discontent, shē growes sullen, he growes crosse shē neglects him, and he cares not for her, untill a sparke of jelousie falls into his braine, which sets all on fire, for now her scownes, lowres, and looks yellow and picks some quarrel against her, so that she is enforc'd at last in revenge to give him these hornes, which she had not thought to have beslow'd upon him : thus when two are joyn'd together for wealth not regarding equall affection, which onely maketh love continue greene and flourisshing : You see that Maides are as it were Shipwrackt and cast away, and shē that is thus matcht does at last acknowledge with weeping teares, that if shē were now to make her choyse againe shē would put on her spectacles, for now shē hath learnt more Wit, although it bee bought by woe.   
Experience.

There is a third way of buying Wit, and that is by suretisship, when some youngman or any other (being of a god nature, and so more easilv deceiv'd) is willing to pleasure his friend, and to stand betweene him and harme, by being bound for him, and by setting his hand and seale to it, makes so faire a hand, that in short time his friend shrinkes away, and hee is left to the mercy of the creditor, who presently sends out a couple of sergeants after him, who hunt

counter

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counter so long, till at last they get him, and so carry him to prison, where he begins to tell over his cards, and finds that he has plaid the noddy: Now hee sighes, and is faine to sell his owne meanes to discharge the debt, and so at last creepes out againe, and is ever afterwards a decayd man, the pity of his friends the scorne of his enemies, and a continuall boorder at thre-peyny ordinaries, and now hee hath learnt wit against another time, and begins to rate against succetiship, where as a little wit before hand had kept him from comming thus behind hand: And thus thou see'st Tom that Wit is bought dearely, at the price of sorrow and repentance.

Tom hearing this began to shrug his shoulder and to like this discourse wonderfull well, so that he calid for another Jugg of Beere, lest Musario should grow drie in his matter, and did beseech him to plough out his furrow, and to procede in his discourse, promising that if hee would come to Gotham, his wife should give him the best dish of Creame that ever was eaten with spone, and that his daughter at home shou'd be his wife, with all things belonging to her, and because she was a browne sun-burnt girk, her Mother had some money in a clout to make her penny-white, if Musario would accept of her.

But Musario who could not chuse but lye in his owne conceit, to heare Toms kind offers, began at last to thanke him, telling him that hee was not yet purposed to marry, but if ever hee found himselfe inclined that

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that way, hee would thinke of his daughter, though for the present hee had cast love into the farthest end of his thoughts, and was altogether a stranger to a merous affection : When I in heard this hee entreated me to excuse him, and to proceed in his former discourse, wherein he told him that hee received much delight it being the best that ever he had heard or seen. Whereupon Musa so thus replied, Tom, since thou dost thicke to heare the latter part of my discourse concerning bought Wit, I would have thee know that the day would sooner for sake us, then I should want matter to goe on; & therefore since thou art willing to heare, I will not be unwilling to shew thee how Wit is bought still at the second hand, seeing now I cannot chuse but remember in the next place the folly of you Country men, (pardon me Tom for I intend not to disgrace Country men, but to admonish them) : I say therefore I cannot chuse but mer haile to see Country men come flocking up to London, who falling out amongst themselves about a meere scame, or the ploughing of a baulke, doe at last come up to Lawyer, who promises them that he will make their adversary moke, for their cause is good, and their gold is better, for hee takes it without waighing, but make the end of the busnes, no sooner does their money begin to shrink, but presently the Lawyer growes cold in the mouth, when the money is spended, then the controversie is ended, when theres no money, then

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then theres no matter to bee heard, so that at last  
poore Piecce pennylesse the ploughman must goe  
downe againe to bring up more supplies of money,  
hee must sell all corne, and turne his lambs and fat-  
lings into capone, and then up he comes againe, and  
with cap in hand entreates the Lawyer to take his  
money, and to haue mindfull of his Case, but at last  
finding himselfe delaid, and his money spent, his busi-  
nes in the Country negl. ged, his state consum'd  
here at London. hee returns againe into the Coun-  
try, and advises his neighbours not to contend in  
Lawe, or nourish the fire of contention: For now  
though hee hath sold his Dren and his Teame, and  
impoverish'd himselfe, yet haue hath bought Wit and  
learnt this lesson.

Goe not to Lawe in any case,  
But rather put up some disgrace,  
My selfe I wronged by seeking right,  
And made my purse to grow so light.  
Then Country men and neighbours all,  
To Law and wrangling doe not fall:  
Learne of mee this counsell here,  
For this same Wit did cost mee deere.

By my holy dame quoth Thomas, I thinke thou  
hast some skill in versification for in my conceit this  
rule is very necessary for our Townesmen of Gor-  
tham to learne by heart as they say, or without booke,

Bought Wit is best.

for not long since Goodman Hulfe-penn, and Goodman Clod-pole went to Law about a Goose, which came into Goodman Hulfe-pennies barn to eat the cates, whereupon they like two geese came flying up to London, and here the Lawyers pluckt off their feathers, and sent them downe ayaine as bare as birds tayle, but now since that it is a world to say what husbands they are turnd and now they doe rail abominably against the Lawyers, which because I would not forget your rule, I would have it in black and white, desiring you to set it downe upon this piec of paper. Nay quoth Musario for that your memo  
I know is brittle, I will give you before wee part some verses, which I made sometime about that occasion, in the meane time I will briefly lay downe some other kinds of men and women, which doe but  
tell at the second hand.

As namely there are some who are so much ad  
dicted to gaming, that they had rather ventur their soules by forswearing then to loose a cast at dice or a  
trick at cardes, yet at last perhaps fortune frownes against them, and sends them away losers so long, untill that his money is gone, and now having plaid it away, he comes to great poverty, and at last he confesses, that if he had that estate which formerly hee was possessed of, hee would never handle any of those wicked bokes or damned bone, as long as hee lieth, for now he hath bought Wit, misit pecunia acquisivit ingenium, hee hath lost his money and  
earnt Wit.

The

Bought Wit is best.

The next which I will mention is Master  
whic Smock-love a Gentleman, who is enamoured on eves  
eatry painted beauty, and like a fly buzzes about  
her, unill at last hee falls into the honey-pot, and is  
ther so besotted with those vanities, till finding the sorrow  
as as well as the sweet, having emptied his purse, and  
so so fill his bones with aches, and the french Canniball  
all beginning to eate of his flesh, making the calves of  
his leggs to shynke away, and his haire to fall off;  
but now when he looks like the Emblyne of time, he  
begins to thinke how he hath spent his time, and to  
hate all petticoates and white aprons, as two mo-  
span tall enemies to all mankind, and now when every  
part about him does ia the language of diseases cry  
peccavi, he begins to be a very penitent Gentleman,  
but and does confess unto himselfe, that the Kings  
of Scorpions are not wroth then a whores kindnes,  
and now he hath bough: some wit by deere repentance,  
so that his Motto may be mors mea ex morbis, shew-  
ing that as he lived unsafely, so he dyed miserably.

The next Scholler that comes to the Schole of  
repentance, is old Barnaby, but he comies in so  
drunke that hee can hardly see the letters upon the  
Booke or tell the chalke ciphers which are upon the  
Score, though indeed he be sometime a good Arithme-  
tician, for he casts up his reckoning in the chimney,  
and then hee cryes.

My Hostis there is *Summas totatis*,  
Give me my money for there your ale is. And

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And thus when hee hath uttered his mind with  
many a hickock, & growes troublesome to the house,  
perhaps they turne him out of doores, and send him  
to gather water-cresses to cole his stomach, and so  
having got his money they flout him, and send him  
packing. But now suppose poore Barnaby hath an im-  
patient wife at home who when Barnaby comes re-  
tiring in a doores, begins to beate and cudgell him, and  
to rayle upon him, so that next day hee goes to the  
Alehouse againe, and there waists and consumes his  
money, so that his wife and Children are almost  
starv'd, while his drinking keepesthem from eating,  
and the begger begins to looke out at his elbowes,  
while his clothes grow tattered and torn, and he  
himselfe begins to pity his owne case, then I say  
when Mother Repentance hath whipt him with the  
rod of his owne folly, then hee begins to confess his  
owne vice, and crave of that beastly humour of drink-  
ing, which hath left him neither money, creditt, nor  
friends, and at last he learnes this lesson, that bought  
Wit is best.

**A**fter this comes Mr. Phantastes, who is indeed  
ain a higher forme, this is a humorome youth,  
delighting in change and variety, and like the Ca-  
meleon changing himselfe into all colours, and all  
professions, hee is sick of himselfe, and never likes his  
present manner of life, and therfore hee will be  
meddling in all trades, and where he has no know-  
ledge,

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ledge, yet hee will make experiments with the ha-  
sard of his owne estate, untill at last hee prove him-  
selfe a cōcremb, and then hee may write underneath  
probatum est, sometimes hee will undertake new  
projects, and if all faile, hee will study alchymy, and  
endeavour to make the Philosophers stone, and at  
last when hee hath like Mercury chang'd his Sol and  
Luna, that is his gold and silver into moake and has  
chang'd so many shapēs, and runne through so many  
courses, that no man knew in what shapē to finde him,  
then necessity comes and bindes him, and as they  
saine that Prometheus could never be scēne, but when he  
was bound: So hee in his next Metamorphosis may  
be scēne in the visible shapē of a poore Satyr, that  
is melancholly black, looking so pale and wan as  
if himselfe had bene distild, and now perhaps when  
hee finds that as many courses tire the best Gray-  
hund, so many professions will run a mans praise  
out of breath, at last I say hee learnes this lesson, that  
bought Wit is best.

**T**he next is a frewant & choller, one that comes  
very late to the Scholle of repentance, & this is  
the Young age, who in the winter of his age wil yet  
be putting forth and shew his scōly, in the greenenes  
of his desires, for hee will have a young wife to teach  
him his horne booke though af. erwards he confesses  
that felix quem faciunt aliorum cornua cantus, that  
is, happy is he whom other mens hornes doe make

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to beware, and so at last hee learnes Wit, and doth  
acknowle ge his dotage in these wards.

Let age beware and have a care,  
For if that hee a young wife wed  
Hee may weare hornes upon his head.  
For shee will soone advance his crest,  
This Wit is bought and therefore best.

**T**he neare Scholler in the Schole of repentance, is Mistis Light-heeles, who treads so long in that sinfull path, that her soule is quite gone away, till time diseases and disgrace brings her to repen-  
tance, and shewes her her so ly, though indeed it be  
very hard for her to come unto this Schole at all, be-  
cause the Dibell keepes her from it, and makes her  
believe sh'e is too old to learne, when indeed there is  
no time to late for a sinner to returne unto the  
Schole of ic penitance.

**T**here is another Scholler called Master Will-  
full, and this is a stubborn youth, that will not  
acknowle ge himselfe in a fault, and therefore runs  
on to drinking, roaring, swearing and whoring, till at  
last folly takes him up upon his back, and experiences  
whipps him with the willow rod of wilfullnesse.

**A**fter this comes Master Wild-oates, and hee  
looks as though hee scorned to learne, but yet at  
last

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done last out of Taberne reckonings Taylors bills, Mercers bakes, false dice, horse-races, and Taffety Petticoates, he begins to learne these two lette. s. i. O. and that O. brings him to woe, and that woe brings him to have Wit when all is done.

**A** Nother Scholler to this Schole is young Nan Greenely, who having eaten forbidden fruite, growes sick with it for the stones lie in her stomack, nce until at last shē has morning qualmes, and blew  
ing in circles under her eyes : And then ills her, shē  
vzy had never bee so fend of the Shepheards Datens  
ren pipe which has now occasioned all her melancholly  
be by venturing, for one fit of mirth.

**T** He next Scholler is Mr. Quarrelsome, who ha-  
ving either lost some of his joynts, or having an  
the eye put out in some Taberne-fray, or else having  
slaine a man by a desperate blow of a quart pot, or the  
stab of his dagger, does at last come to the Schole  
of repentance : And perhaps having saw'd himselfe  
by his Woke, does live quietly all his dayes after-  
ward, and leaves quarrelling as a badge of cowards,  
at and a thing hatefull to ciuil company.

**A** After him comes Mr. Careles, who spendes all,  
and scornes to take care for any thing, he will  
goe with his cloathes seamerent, and trusts to for-  
tune for new ones, but at last repentance takes him

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to Scholling and teaches him a new lesson, shewing him that carelesnes brings rate, and waste brings want and beggery.

**T**he next that is admitted to the Scholle of repentence, is Mr. Outside, who takes up silke satins, gold lace, and such commodities, untill at last he is arrested for the payment, and so carried to the Counter, where repentence teaches him this lesson, that 'tis folly to goe in debt for fine cloathes.

**T**he next is Goodman Clouton a Countreyman who for making ill bargaines for ill husbandry and for going to Law, is brought into the Scholle of repentence and confesses his fault: For these thre natiely, ill bargaines, ill husbandry, and going to Law, doe commonly under Countrey men.

**A**fter him comes Missis Haughty, a proud Dame, and one that was very straight lac'd, and high minded, but now being come downe againe, is laugh'd at, and contemned of every one, so that repentence teaches her this lesson, that pride in prosperity is hated in aduersity.

**I**n a lower degree is Missis Mattergood, who destroyes more by lazy ill husbandry, then her Husband can get, so that she will make a fatined Beggar.

Ast

Bought Wit is best.

**A**fter these comes Mr. Haire-braine, this is a rash youth, and is ready to beate all his fellow Schollers, soz as a Hare being started runs right forward, so hee runs on in a passion, in such a manner that nothing can stop him: But yet at laist hee is unclussed and leid upon the back of folly, and whipt with the rod of his owne making.

**T**he last Scheller in the Schoole of repentance, is a very dunce called Nathaniel Never-mend, this fellow may have warning given him a hundred times: But hee will never leare any thing, and the reason is because hee is stuppeine, and sclere conreited, so that hee growes worse and worse, and though hee hath beene whipt with his owne folly, yet hee will never mend his fault, and this is the last and worst Scheller that comes to the Schoole of repentance.

**N**o sooner had Musario done speaking but presently Tom Long who sat by listening all this while, begun to commend Musario telling him that new hee understood directly, that men were taught Wit in the Schoole of repentance, and that hee liked his comparison most wonderfully, and so began to declare his thankes in such dunstable words, that Musario who was more tred to receive thankes for his paines, then to take paines to deserve his thankes, answered him that if hee found any benefit by his discourse, that then his labour was sufficiently reward-

Bought Wit is best.

des, it being his intention to mixe profit with delight, and in a jesting manner to give men counsell, how to shun those courses which doe bring them to repentance: And now at last I will give thee a paper of verses to that purpose, briefly describing the Schoole of repentance, and the Schooles thereunto belonging.

**R**epentance keepes a Schoole where men do lcarne,  
To know their faults which they at last discerne,  
And though abroad like Trewants they doe runne,  
Yet at the length unto this Schoole they come,  
Where many formes and seyall places bee,  
To fit all sorts of high and lowe degree:  
And heere they are some rules of wisedome taught,  
And to the knowledge of themselves are brought,  
So that when all the world doth forlacke them,  
Repentance then into her Schoole doth take them:  
Vpon this Schoole there comes the silke Gull,  
And Master Smock-love that courts every Trull,  
And then old Barnaby comes reeling in,  
Who heere is taught to leave his drunken sinne,  
And this same Schoole a lesson doth unfold  
To young age, that doth marry when hee's old:  
Young Miltis Light-heeles too doth hither come,  
When as her flower of beauty once is done,  
And Master Wild-oates this same Schoole doth tame  
With Master Wilfull Huborne like his name:  
Hither Nan Greene-looke likewise doth repaire,

When

## Bought Wit is best.

When shee hath got a belly full of care,  
And Master *Quarrell* that will ne're agree,  
Comes to repentance Schoole for it is free,  
Young Master *Careles* he're doth spend some time,  
And Master *Out-side* in his suite so fine:  
With Goodman *Clowton* in his russet hose,  
And Mistris *Haughty* that so bravely goes,  
Dame *Slatter-good* doth leat're her lesson here  
With Master *Haire-braine* that doth nothing feare:  
These folly to repentance Schoole doth send,  
Together with *Nathaniell Never-mend*,  
Who all are here instructed for to know,  
That their owne errours brought them unto woe,  
Experience with her willow rod doth whip them,  
While folly first into their shirts doth strip them,  
And holds them on his back till they are payd,  
Even with that rod which they themselves had made.  
And then at last like Schollers they are brought,  
With weeping teares even to confesse their fault:  
Then Master *Prodigall* doth at last confess,  
That hee in vices path did long digresse,  
His braines and pocket both are empty growne,  
And all his friends are like to Swallowes frowne.  
For when adversity is comming on,  
The seeming friendship of the world is done,  
And *Barnaby* will learne to save a penny,  
Though hee before in pots did spend too many:  
Now Master *Young-age* pained with the horne,  
Confesses that hee is but made a scorne.

## Bought Wit is best.

By marrying with a young wife in his age,  
And nothing can his horned grise all w. ge.  
And Mistris Light-heeles does confess at last,  
Her wanton games which now are gone and past,  
Diseases now her body have disgrac'd,  
And blackest vices have her mind defac'd  
Her stiences and her aches doe proclame,  
That shee by backstich did thole stiches gaine,  
Then Master W. id-oates will more tamour growe,  
When once hee coimes to pay what hee doth owe:  
And if Nan Greenerly chance to get a clap.  
Then shee with teeres bewaies her sad mishaps  
And Master Carelesse when he go's thred-bare,  
Dare find this carelessness doth bring on care:  
Thus al the Schollers doe learne after-wit,  
Even by those errours which they doe commit,  
And when in folly they have long digest,  
They find at last that bought Wit is the best.

**N**OD sooner had Musonio given Tom Long this paper of vers  
es, together with a coppy of the former dis. ourse, but he  
put them up in his pouch, thanking Musonio for his paines  
promising him no small matter, if ever hee came to Gotham,  
that with many a st. ping congee, & much loving No sence  
hee tooke his leave of him, and Musonio was glad to be delivred  
from him. But so it happened that Tom Long entred many  
yeres afterward in London, and in the first yere hee got this  
discourse to be pr. n. ed, and gave it the Title of bought Wit is  
best, as Tom Long's journey to London to buy Wit, which  
hee: sufficiently described, so that it doth afford both profit  
delight, which is the marke that Musonio apid it, that so by  
mingling Wit and mirth together, hee might please those the  
desire to bee merry.

FINIS.

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